

The Daily Gazetteer.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29. 1740

91° 14-36.



HERE were, some Time ago, some Queries inserted in this Paper, relating to the Character and Principles of the Writer of the Paper called *Common Sense*; and as that Man pretends to be a great Friend to Liberty, and to write upon old Whiggish Principles, so stated and established at

the Revolution. Those Queries which charge him with being an *Irish Papist*, and the Author first of *Mass*, and afterwards of *Fag's Journal* (which were both, as it is very well known, *Jacobite Papers*, and written expressly to serve the Cause and Interest of the Pretender) must have one or other of the following Consequences; that is, they must either be took'd up to be absolutely false, and to be drawn up with full, premeditated Design to blacken his Character, and lay a Load of Infamy upon him, in order to take the Weight and Credit of his Writings, with him who may be supposed to give any Attention to them, if any such can be; or else that Writer must, in his Opinion of all Mankind, appear to be the most Miscreant and most impudent Cheat that ever endeav'rd to deceive and impose upon the World. Because there cannot be in Nature, two Things so widely opposite to one another, as a *Friend* to Liberty and the Revolution, and an *Irish Papist* and an *Incendiary* to the Pretender.

If therefore this Man really is what he pretends, if he writes upon fair and honest Principles, and is an *Irish Papist*, and a most *Infamous Impostor*, as, in those Queries, he is charged to be, it would, undoubtedly, have been a very easy Matter for him to impeach his Character, and have falsify'd the fact contained in them; and this he might have done, without making a full Discovery of himself to the Publick (which, I own, it is not reasonable at this Time to expect a Writer should do), because by this Denial only, he would have put it upon his Readers to have prov'd the Charge they had brought against him; which if they had fail'd in doing, to the satisfaction of the Publick, he must have stood fairly and honourably acquitted, and they must have generally condemn'd as the Authors of a vile and scotched Calumny against him.

But what was the Method this Man took to justify himself? Why he flew out into the most gross and evident Abuse of others, without giving one Word of Answer to what concerned himself, and was implored by this Means to amuse the World, and draw their Attention from the only Point in Dispute, which was, Whether he was not an *Irish Papist*? Whether he was not the Author of *Mass*'s and *Fag's Journal*? and two or three more plain Questions of like Kind, which were as easily answered as that.

As this is a just and exact State of the Case, the Conclusion that can be drawn from it is this, that the Charge against him is in every single Instance both and literally true, and that he stands convicted, in the Face of all Mankind, by his own Confession and Admission, of being an *Irish Papist*, a Writer of *Irish Papist Labels*, and at other Times of *Irish ones*, as it suited with the different Situation and Conjunction of Affairs, and that of Consequence he must be, and cannot possibly be considered in any other Light than as a *Papish Incendiary*, one of that ill Brood, nursed up in the School of the Jesuits, and sent here to throw about the Fire-brands of Sedition, and set the Nation in a Flame! A School he is now, and will, thro' all Ages to come, be infamous, for the Plots they have formed, the Rebellions they have raised, the Distraction and Confusion they have occasioned in States, and all the Murders, Massacres, Assassinations, and infinite Variety of Mischiefs they have perpetrated by such Ingrained Agents, as the Fellow that writes the Journal called *Common Sense*.

It may indeed be Matter of Wonder to many, that so crafty and subtle a Society as this is generally reported to be, should not make Choice of better Tools to work with than this Fellow, who has no Ability, no Knowledge, no Address, nor any one Quality, to make him capable of executing any Design of Importance, but the most consummate Impudence and the most malignant Heart; but any one who considers

this with due Attention, will easily see that the Two last are the only Qualities that are necessary for the Purposes for which these lower Order of Tools are employed, which is only to prepare the Way and clear the Paths that lead to those Projects which abler Heads and Men of superior Talents are to have the Conduct and Direction of; the former are like the Forlorn Hope in an Army; they are sent upon the most dangerous and desperate Service, and if they happen to succeed, the latter easily enter at the Breach which the others have made; but if the Attempt miscarries, all the Consequence is, that these little Implements of Treason and Villany are hanged, disown'd and abjur'd by those that set them on, and the Work of Darkness is suspended for that Time, till another Opportunity presents itself to revive it.

It is therefore extremely plain, that in Affairs of this Kind the lower and ruder the Tool is, the fitter he is for the Errand on which he is sent; for what Understanding, what Capacity, what Talents are required to be a Trumpeter of Sedition, a Spy, or an Assassin? And who but the most worthless, the most despotic, the most profligate and abandon'd of all Mankind, would take upon them so execrable and hellish an Employment? I own, a Man must be a complete and most accomplished Villain to qualify him for it, but then that is all that is necessary; for the most stupid and senseless Fellow alive, if they are but wicked enough, are capable of performing so accursed a Function; and for that Reason we see that such Diabolical Work has generally been put into the Hands of such miserable Outcasts, such abhorred and abject Miscreants, as *James Clement*, who assassin'd *Henry III. of France*; *Ravaillac*, who assassin'd that great and illustrious Prince *Henry IV. of France*; *Guy Fawkes*, who was to blow up with Gun-powder, the whole Legislature of this Kingdom; and the equally infamous and detestable Wretch that writes the Paper called *Common Sense*! — But God preserve his Maj. Sacred Majesty King George!

To bear therefore such a Fellow as this talk of Corruption, of Grievances, of Abuses in the Administration, and of the Rights and Liberties of the People of England, to hear him in the most scandalous Manner, and in the most Scurrilous and Billingsgate Language, from Week to Week, insulting His Majesty, reviling his Ministers, abusing both houses of Parliament, and publickly and scowledly charging the most considerable Persons in the Kingdom, for their Rank, Dignity, Fortune, and Abilities, with being engaged in a Confederacy to subvert the Constitution, under the most impudent Appellation of a *Grand Vizier at the Head of a Gang of Planchers*: I say it is impossible for any Man, let his Party-Zeal, in other Respects, run ever so high, not to be shock'd and affront'd at such prodigious Insolence from so despicable a Wretch as this! A Miscreant that has no Right, no Pretence whatever, to meddle in the Affairs of a Nation, in which he has no Property, no Concern, no Interest, no Subject, has paid no Allegiance, and for which, of Consequence, he can have no Affection, but is a Papish Envoy, a Foreign Spy, an Infamous Vagabond, the Scum and Outcast of all People and Societies, and fit only to herd with a Gang of *Banditti* and *Assassins*!

What then can be the Reason? — Is it Lenity, or Indifference, or Attention to Matters which may be thought of greater Importance? Or to what Cause can it be imputed, that this Fellow is not dragg'd out of his lurking Holes, the blind Alleys, and dark Corners, where he creeps and sculks to hide his abominable Head, and confound'd over to the Justice of those Laws, which, by long Impunity, he seems to think he may spurn, and trample upon at Pleasure? Why does no the Government (always too mild and tender) vindicate its own Authority, and at least make one severe, but just Example, of a Wretch, who has so long bid them defiance? Is there a Man in England so lost to all Sense of Shame, that would countenance him, that would own him, that on the contrary would not reject him, denounce him, disclaim all Knowledge of him, and cast him off, and abandon him to his Fate? Is the Liberty of the Press to be profited to such vile Purposes, as this Fellow has professed it, and shall that be made a Sanctuary for him to fly to? Can any Man have so wild a Head as to conceive that it would be the least Violation of that Liberty, to bring to a condign Punishment, an infamous Miscre-

ant, who under various Masks and Disguises, has for a long Series of Years, made it his continual Practice, to treat the Legislature, the Ministry, the Magistracy of the Kingdom, and even Majesty itself, in such vile and opprobrious Terms, as are in use no where, but in Brothels and Night-cells, and to represent the Government of this Realm, to the Subjects of it, as a wicked Confederacy formed together to plunder, oppress and enslave the People? Is such amazing Impudence as this, such a notorious Defiance of all Law and Authority, to be called Reasoning and Debating upon Publick Affairs? Can this be what is meant by the Liberty of the Press? No certainly; the Liberty of the Press may be most inviolably and religiously preserved, and yet such a Fellow as this, who has so notoriously abused it, be punished as he most richly deserves; Publick Justice, the Honour and Authority of the Government, and the Peace and Security of the Nation require this to be done, in the most speedy and effectual Manner, and that as now the Measure of his Iniquity is full, he may at last be made an Example of the Justice, as he has long been of the Liberty and Mercy of that Government, which he has so scandalously insulted and reviled.

POSTSCRIPT.

I observe, that the ingenious and worthy Person that now writes the *Craftsman*, has in a thing equally foolish and impudent, which he calls, *The CRAFTSMAN'S Answer to the King of Spain's Declaration of War against Great Britain*, given a formal and solemn Invitation to the Author of *Common Sense* to enter into his Alliance, and to assist him in the laudable Undertaking which he has engaged in, which that precious Fellow in the same Form, and with as much *W^{is}*, has publish'd his Acceptance of; so that the Publick must now, by his own Acknowledgment and Declaration, look upon that great and dismally reviled Patriot Mr. *D'Anvers* to be linked in Confederacy and to write in Conjunction with an *Irish Papist* *Vagabond*, and a Writer of *Jacobite Papers*, as is universally known, and can be undeniably proved, if not likewise a Spy or an Assassin, as is generally suspected.

I own when I read this strange and wild Paper, in which Mr. *D'Anvers* courts this *base Irish Papist* *Scoundrel*, into his Alliance, I was a good deal surprized as well as surprized, because tho' I had always the most sovereign and unaffected Contempt for the poor Man that now scribbles in the *Craftsman*, yet as I believed him to be in his heart a Lover of Liberty, and a Friend to the precious Establishment in his Majesty, and his illustrious Family, I had some Remains of Pity for him, notwithstanding all that Rudeeness and Scenrillity, and Scouring Politics and Indelicacies as he has been guilty of, for such a long Series of Time, which I was willing to impute to his Circumstances, and the Necessity he lay under, to write something for Bread, and to pick up as well as he was able, a wretched Livelihood; but when I found he was fallen so low, so much beneath Contempt, and had made himself so base, so abject and despicable a Tool, as to off'r himself as a Coadjutor and Fellow-Scribbler in this scandalous Trade of Libelling, with a Wretch of so infamous a Character, so vile, so mean, so low a Creature, in Education, Talents, and every Quality and Respect whatever, one who is such an Outcast of Nations! such a Shame and Reproach to human Nature! as the Fellow is known to be who infests the Publick every Week with his dirty Trash, under that most impudent Appellation of *Common Sense*, with such abominable Impudence, as was never suffer'd, as there never was any Infamy of in any civilized Country before, I say, when I perceived that the Person who now assumes the Name of Mr. *D'Anvers*, and continues to write under that Character, was capable of prostituting himself to such a Degree as this, I was under the greatest Constitution and Ambition imaginable, as I dare say every one who has cast his Eye over that Paper; and I make no doubt but those Gentlemen who were good old Writers, and have all along been considerate of the Persons of the *Craftsman*, will, in Vindication of their own Honour, and to remove the Offense from themselves as far as possible, publicly disown and disown the present Writer of the *Craftsman*, and all Concern in, and Knowledge of the Paper, and express their Contempt and Abhorrence both of one and the other, in the strongest Terms that is possible.

FOREIGN

